

062 Jordan

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Jordan Bureau

FROM:		EXTENSION	NO.
Chief, Operations Group		2944	DATE July 1987
TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
1. CHIEF, MOD			
2. CHIEF, COMMINT			
3. SA/CD			
4. C/VAX-Commo Section	8/19/87	8/19/87	NW2
5.			
6. Chief, MOD			
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3 Aug 87
MJN-8712

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report--Jordan Bureau --July 1987

I. GENERAL

The tourist sector of Jordan's economy could not have been thrilled by the front page story in the 2 August JORDAN TIMES reporting on the growing public health scandal concerning the increasingly dangerous hazard of water pollution in Amman over recent weeks. The report is tied to the forced resignations of the presidents of the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) and the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) by the Prime Minister and suggests that polluted water which has been pumped to Amman may well be the cause of a high number of cases of "bilharzia, ascaris and amibiasis, causing acute diarrhoea, dehydration among children, and inflammation of the digestive system from funky algae." The author of the report also alleges the presence of carcinogens in Amman's water since last November. Although the story does cite the JVA president as saying that the affair "had been blown out of all proportion by the incompetence of those involved in the assessment of the problem," the thrust of the article is that the residents of Amman are exposed to a health danger on a unknown but possibly significant scale.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

On 20 July the Baghdad INA Arabic service extended its transmission past the normal 2000 GMT signoff in order to carry the first Iraqi reaction to the UN Security Council Resolution calling for an immediate cease-fire between Iraq and Iran, the halting of all military operations, and withdrawal to internationally recognized borders. This INA report also included the text of the speech delivered by Iraq's permanent UN representative promising that Iraq would carefully study the UN resolution and then provide an official response. The bureau remained open for an extra three hours to file the INA report priority in three takes.

B. Lateral Services

At the request of the embassy's Economic Office, the bureau provided a translation of an Amman PETRA-JNA report on the

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28 July decision by the Jordanian House of Representatives to approve a supplementary budget law allowing the government to spend JD 140 million outside the budget for fiscal 1986.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

Two local bureau employees, Monitor Specialists [redacted] received promotions and PSI's during the month. Each was promoted from grade and step 7.1 to 8.2. STAT

B. Departures

1. Bureau Chief [redacted] and family left Amman on 9 July for PCS to headquarters. STAT

2. Editors [redacted] left Amman on 23 July for PCS to headquarters. STAT

C. Arrivals

1. Editor [redacted] arrived in Amman PCS from headquarters on 12 July. STAT

2. Editor [redacted] and family arrived in Amman from Bangkok and home leave on 17 July. STAT

IV. VISITS

Embassy political officers Naim Ahmad and Alan Misenheimer visited the bureau for a thorough briefing on 30 July.

[redacted] STAT
Chief, Jordan Bureau

ATT: Monthly Production Report